The Southern PATRIOT

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LINES FOR CHRISTMAS, 1951

Rejoice and sing!
For winter, cold as hate, is warm with love
This day when death is birth and dearth is hope
Rejoice and sing!
The beating heart impinged by rusting bonds
Embraces all in regal innocence
Rejoice and sing!
What gust, what force of fraud or arms can fell
The child of storm, the brotherhood of man?
Rejoice and sing!
—Alfred Maund

Integrated School Thrives in Carolina

Little Negro and white children are going to school together in North Carolina—And the sky hasn't fallen down!

At Fort Bragg's two elementary schools for the children of military personnel there are 1,175 whites and 33 Negroes enrolled.

Of a staff of 43 teachers, one is a Negro.

The schools have been in operation since September and the director, Mrs. Mildred Poole, says she has received only one complaint:

"An officer's wife tearfully phoned me and said her husband had forbidden her to send her daughter to schools with Negroes. He was going to send her back home with the child."

Mrs. Poole says she told the woman: "I hope the child won't look back 25 years from now and be ashamed to say you wouldn't let her go to school with these children." She heard no more of the matter. "For all I know," she says, "the child is attending one of our base schools."

As for how the children get along together. Mrs. Poole tells this anecdote:

"A colored girl in the sixth grade was stung by a wasp. A general's daughter brought the girl to me. I called a bus driver to take her to the outpatient's clinic. Then the general's daughter spoke up and asked, 'May I go with her? I think she's scared.'

"The two little girls went together."

Mrs. Poole is a native Carolinian with wide experience in the state's educational system. She says she began preparing her teachers for an unsegregated school back in 1948.

"We knew it was coming and had

(Continued on page 4)

A Case Worse Than Scottsboro!

"Tis a privilege to live in central Florida — The world's most beautiful place for abundant living."

So reads the blurb beneath the masthead of the Orlando Morning Sentinel.

But in adjoining Lake County, the only abundance is of death and horror and a Negro's privileges are few.

Samuel Shepherd is dead, his brother-in-law, Walter Lee Irvin, critically wounded. And Sheriff McCall sits at the brand-new desk which grateful citizens gave him.

This is Jim Crow's latest bloody challenge to decency and justice in the incredible Groveland rape case.

In 1949 Shepherd, Irvin and two other Negro youths were accused of raping a white housewife. The sheriff claimed he had confessions—which were never presented in court—and the local press began baying for blood. The *Sentinel*, for example, ran an editorial cartoon picturing four empty electric chairs with the caption "No Compromise!"

As a result, one of the accused, Ernest Thompson, was killed by a mob which a coroner's jury later decided was a "posse." The homes of the defendants' parents were razed and torch-wielding terrorists forced the settlement of 400 Negroes to flee the area.

A "guilty" verdict resulted at the trial, of course. Charles Greenlee, then 16, got life because of his youth. His case was not appealed. The other two were sentenced to die.

But this spring the U. S. Supreme Court reversed the verdict and ordered a new trial on the ground that Negroes were excluded from jury service. Justice Jackson, in a separate opinion, blasted the irresponsible behavior of the press throughout the incident.

Then on the night of November 6, racial hatred overruled the high bench. Shepherd and Irvin were being returned from the state penitentiary by Sheriff McCall to begin their second trial at Eustis. Following them in a car behind was a deputy.

After turning off the main highway onto a dirt road the sheriff's car had "tire trouble." He says he stopped the car and the pair, manacled together, "jumped him with a flashlight." So he started shooting.

Irvin, from his hospital bed, tells a very different story.

He say the sheriff ordered them from the car. "Shepherd he taken his foot and how quick it was, but he shot him . . . and he turned, the sheriff did, and then right quick he shot me . . .

"He snatched both of us and that threw both of us to the ground. He shot me again in the shoulder and still I didn't say anything all the time. I knew that I was not dead.

"I heard him say, 'I got rid of them—killed the sons of b-—-s!' "

Later, Irvin relates, the deputy came up and fired a final shot into his throat as he lay on the ground.

Four distinguished clergymen, representing the "Committee of 100" as observers to see if local prejudice would permit the holding of a fair trial, express little doubt that the slaying of Shepherd was cold-blooded murder.

The four are: Dr. S. Ralph Harlow, professor of religion and social ethics at Smith College; Rev. Paul Moore of Grace Protestant Episcopal Church, New York City; Dr. Hornell Hart of the Duke University School of Religion and

(Continued on Page 4.)

Miss Davis

MISS CLARICE C. DAVIS, 19-year-old co-ed, has been elected home-coming queen at the University of Illinois. Miss Davis was the winner by a substantial margin among 16 finalists. (See page 4.)

The Southern PATRIOT

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AUBREY WILLIAMS ..... President
BENJAMIN E. MAYS ..... Vice-President
ALVA W. TAYLOR ..... Secty.-Treasurer
JAMES A. DOMBROWSKI ..Dir. & Editor

Address all correspondence to Room 404, 822 Perdido Street, New Orleans, La.

How to Fight Hospital Bias

You know that Negroes aren't being given a square deal at your local hospitals. But what can you, a plain private citizen do about it?

Well, in Wilmington, Delaware, here's what they did.

A group of conscientious citizens, of all faiths and walks of life, formed the Delaware Fellowship Commission. And of this group, they chose a Citizens Committee on Hospitals.

This committee studied all available surveys of Delaware health facilities. They sought out witnesses and made personal inquiries. Then they drew up a list of the most glaring racial inequalities.

The list was sent to 300 civic, service, church and fraternal organizations and their support was solicited in the fight to abolish these bad practices. The boards of directors of the various hospitals were visited.

The result?

So far, one hospital has appointed Negro physicians to its courtesy staff for the first time and the labeling of lavatories and equipment as "Colored" or "White" has been discontinued. The citizens are still pressing for their other objectives.

Such local action against Jim Crow medicine is precisely the aim the SCEF has for its current hospital survey program. For those readers who might want to make use of the Delaware method, further information can be had by writing Pauline A. Young, 901 French St., Wilmington.

A document of much interest in this same regard is the pamphlet "Yours for a Genuine Brotherhood," a survey of discrimination in Los Angeles published by the Southern California Chapter of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions, 1586 Crossroads of the World, Hollywood 28, Calif.

Medics Told Social Duties

"One morning not long ago a nurse walked into a two-bed room in a small midwestern hospital and spoke to the patient who occupied one of the beds. 'We're going to have company! . . . A new patient will be coming in shortly. It's—uh—I hope you won't mind—ah—this other patient is—uh—colored.'

"Most hospital patients are agreeable to this kind of suggestion, but in this case the nurse's nervousness proved to be well founded. The patient protested violently: She had never been so insulted in her life! She would get out of bed and walk home if it killed her, before she would share her room with a Negress!

"As it turned out, she did nothing of the kind. Coming to the rescue of the floor nurse, a supervisor took over and explained that this was an emergency—no other bed was available. The new patient was coming in and no nonsense, she implied unmistakably, and the excitable patient was soon subdued.

"Observant nurses reported that the room was charged with tension at the time the Negro patient was admitted, but the feeling of tension eased as the day wore on and hospital routines were carried out without incident. By evening, the Negro and white patient were exchanging polite wishes for a restful night.

"The next morning they chatted amiably together about breakfast, their respective conditions, and hospital life in general. All tension had vanished. As it nearly always does in these circumstances, the powerful force of a shared, special experience had shattered the artificial barriers of fear and distrust that separate one person or group from another. . .

"Unfortunately, our society today offers so few occasions for these shared experiences that the barriers remain high. . . "

With this moving editorial, the magazine **Modern Hospital** (Vol. 76, No. 6) introduced a series of articles dealing with racial discrimination in medicine.

Contributors included the directors of the Philadelphia Hospital Council; Mount Sinai Hospital, Chicago; Freedman's Hospital, Washington, D. C.; Ohio University Medical Center and Montefiore Hospital, New York City.

Each drew upon his experience in his particular locale and specialty, but all documented the conclusion that "the inequalities that result from segregation in hospital care in the U. S. are not the fault of doctors and hospital people, but doctors and hospital people can eliminate the inequalities when they have the will to do so."

Modern Hospital is primarily a technical journal. But the clear, factual style of the articles makes them have a definite appeal to laymen as well.

Such courage in bringing this important social issue squarely before the medical profession cannot be commended too highly.

SCEF To Conduct Medical Survey

A grant of $2,500 has been made to SCEF to help finance a campaign against discrimination and segregation in hospital and health services. The gift was conditional upon our raising an additional $2,775.

The first step in the campaign will be a poll of the 2,414 hospital administrators and the 46,000 members of the American Medical Association in 19 Southern and border states and the District of Columbia, on attitudes toward admitting Negro patients to hospitals and extending hospital courtesies to Negro physicians.

In response to a mail appeal, readers of the SOUTHERN PATRIOT very generously contributed more than two-thirds of the additional sum which we must raise.

Under the terms of the original gift we have until January first to raise our part of the budget for this project. If you have overlooked our appeal, there still is time for you to help.

Your contribution will help secure for everyone the right to use available hospital and health facilities regardless of color.

"No Room at the Inn"

The depth of Washington's racial discrimination is revealed in the action of a church-supported hospital which refused to open its doors to a woman in childbirth.

On a wintry morning of 1945, a colored woman in labor, unable to find a cab, set out in the company of her sister for the maternity ward of the Gallinger General Hospital. Reaching the vicinity of the church-supported hospital, the women discovered that the birth was so imminent that the expectant mother could not reach Gallinger in time. The sister rushed up the steps of the denominational hospital and sought admission for the suffering woman as an emergency patient. This was curtly refused and the baby was delivered on the sidewalk in front of the hospital. Its staff supplied a sheet to cover the mother and child until the municipal ambulance arrived to take them to Gallinger.

—Reprinted from the **Survey Graphic**, January 1947, p. 36.

Letters

Hysterical Slant?

To the Editor:

I'm a contributor to, and a firm believer in, your cause—our cause, both black and white but I have been troubled by the inflamatory, rabble-rousing tone of a lot that appears in the *Southern Patriot* and have debated whether I wanted to continue to help perpetuate such an organ.

...If I don't soon find a more objective, more moderate, more informative and less whipping-up-to-hysteria slant to your "education" I shall have to stop being a party to it...

S.U.N., New Jersey.

Donation to School

To the Editor:

For years I have been getting your fine paper, the *Southern Patriot* in response to my modest contribution of a dollar or two a year to the Fund.

I saved these copies and have now donatd them to the Yale Divinity School Library where they will be filed, catalogued and made available to all students.

...There are many Southern students in our school now. The presence of this paper and your fine work will be called to their attention...

ERNEST LEFEVER
Research Assistant to
Dean Liston Pope
Yale University Divinity School
New Haven, Conn.

Report from Arden

To the Editor:

...I want you to see our three Ardens; particularly the one born last year —Ardencroft—for, as you will see it was immediately labelled "interracial" by the Wilmington papers, simply because we have always had a democratic setup and never asked anyone, during the 51 years of Arden's existence who they were, what their religion, politics, race or anything else was. If there was vacant land it was leased on the same terms of 99 years to all comers. But during the Progressive Party campaign three years ago, when three out of four candidates we ran for the state Assembly were Negroes, and in our work in starting the Fellowship Commission in Delaware, we naturally made many Negro friends. So when the 60 acres of the third Arden was opened for settlement, about 25% of the leaseholders were Negroes! For a Southern state, this was sumpin! . . .

DONALD STEPHENS
President, Ardencroft Association
Arden, Del.

Editor's Note: The three communities at Arden, Del. are among the oldest and most successful colonies based on the single-tax philosophy of Henry George. Vice-President of the Ardencroft Assoc. is Dr. Henry George III. Our readers may be interested in the following excerpt from the Charter of the Ardencroft Assoc., taken from the letterhead of the Assoc.

"...every man is entitled to the full results of his own labor or enterprise in producing goods, erecting buildings, improving lands, or otherwise contributing to the satisfaction of his own wants or the wants of others, but that value which attaches to land by reason of the increased competition for its use, and which is due to the growth of population and advance of public improvements, belongs justly to the community. Therefore the public should take by taxation for the common use and benefit the full rental value of land."

Derricotte Remembered

To the Editor:

Enclosed is my dollar for the $2,775 needed to finance the poll of hospitals for research against health segregation.

Miss Juliette Derricotte was a beloved YWCA secretary before she went to Fisk and I believe that organization might like to join you in this effort both because it needs mightily to be done, and in her memory...

CORRINE BREEDING
Oklahoma City, Okla.

Equality of Denial?

To the Editor:

Enclosed is a check for $10.00 in response to your request for help in taking a poll of Southern hospital administrators and doctors. I wish it could be more, but the early months of the school year following a long vacation without pay are always a bit difficult.

Far be it from my intentions to minimize the problem of segregation in hospitals and medical schools. I am all for attacking Jim Crow wherever it exists, which is why I am glad to support your work. However, the additional problem of providing adequate medical attention for all regardless of ability to pay must be solved, for even though segregation were abolished, persons without cash in hand would continue to be denied admission to hospitals. The elimination of segregation would mean for the majority of Negroes equality in being denied admission to hospitals for lack of funds, and its achievement would be more moral than material. Not that a moral victory is undeserving of effort, but there are hard battles to be won on other fronts before medical care can be made what it ought to be.

I had an opportunity to talk with Professor James L. Hupp* while he was a guest instructor here in our summer school. I was glad to get a more intimate picture from him of the Clarendon County case...

LELAND H. TAYLOR, *Prof. of Zoology*
West Virginia University

*JAMES L. HUPP, SCEF board member and Dean at West Virginia Wesleyan College, was an expert witness for the NAACP at the trial of the Clarendon County, S. C., school case testing the constitutionality of segregated public schools.

Negro Candidates Are Elected

The outcome of last month's elections gave additional evidence of the increased interest of Negroes in politics and in the rapid growth of their numbers now on the rolls of registered voters.

In Tidewater, Virginia, *Edward T. Banks* was elected to the Board of Supervisors of Charles City County, defeating the white incumbent.

William J. Brown lost his race as a supervisor in New Kent County by only 5 votes.

Louisville, Ky., elected its first Negro Democrat to the Board of Alderman, *W. W. Beckett*, 40-year-old funeral director.

In Knoxville, Tenn., the *Rev. L. A. Alexander*, in a close race, is believed to have been elected to the School Board.

Elsewhere in the country, *Leeland N. Jones*, 30-year-old law student, was elected to the City Council of Buffalo, N. Y. Earlier in the year he had been elected a trustee of the University of Buffalo where he is enrolled.

Dr. Marshall Shepard, former Recorder of Deeds in Washington, D. C., was elected to the same office in Philadelphia, and *Attorney Raymond P. Alexander* was elected to the City Council.

Architect Edward Bowser, Sr., was elected to the New Jersey legislature, and *Rev. John H. Hester* was re-elcted coroner of Atlantic City. *Edward D. Banks* became an alderman in New Haven. Conn. *Rev. Robert A. Moody* was successful in his bid for a seat in the Hartford, Conn. Board of Education.

Mrs. Esther N. McDowell, graduate of Virginia State College, defeated her white opponent for the Board of Education in Springfield, Mass.

Cleveland, Ohio elected 5 Negroes as Municipal Judge, city councilmen and members of the Board of Education. Cincinnati re-elected two city councilmen.

Attorney John A. Hibbler and *Dr. H. A. Powell*, dentist, were members of the Little Rock, Ark., Remmel for Mayor Committee, marking the first time in Little Rock for many years that Negroes served on non-segregated committees. Remmel, young Republican, was elected.

Books in Brief

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE, BY CATHERINE OWENS PEARE, The Vanguard Press, New York, $2.75.

Mrs. Bethune

Born of slave parents in South Carolina, one of seventeen children, no one ever began life more inauspiciously than Mrs. Bethune; yet she became the head of a great educational institution, the advisor to Presidents, a consultant at the founding convention of the United Nations, and a leader for many decades in the struggle to rid the world of the blight of racial discrimination.

This is the inspiring story of Mrs. Bethune's life, written primarily for young people.

One chapter of the book tells the story of Mrs. Bethune's work as administrator of the Office of Minority Affairs of the National Youth Administration, under Aubrey Williams, the national administrator of NYA. The friendship and association thus begun continues until now. Mrs. Bethune serves as a member of the Board of Directors of SCEF, with Aubrey Williams as president.

IMPRESSIONS RESPECTING NEW ORLEANS BY BENJAMIN HENRY BONEVAL LATROBE, DIARY AND SKETCHES 1818-1820, Edited with an Introduction and Notes by SAMUEL WILSON, JR., Columbia University Press, N.Y., $8.75.

Latrobe, leader in the Greek Revival Movement in American art, was an engineer, composer, playwright, and artist, as well as an architect, and his notes reflect the breadth of his interests. He recorded minutely his impressions of the religious, economic, political and social life of the teeming, young, river-city

The Black Code which survives today in the guise of segregation laws is discussed. Latrobe has this to say about appearance and reality with respect to les grand dames and their treatment of slaves:

> In going into Davis' ballroom, & looking round the brilliant circle of Ladies, it is impossible to imagine that anyone of the fair, mild, & somewhat languid faces, could express any feeling but of kindness and humanity. And yet several . . . of these soft beauties handle *themselves* the cowskin, with a sort of savage pleasure, & those soft eyes can look on the tortures of their slaves, inflicted by their orders, with satisfaction & cooly prescribe the dose of infliction, the measure of which can stop short of the life of their property. . .
>
> Whatever therefore this community may lose in taste, elegance, & exterior suavity, & acquire of serious & awkward bluntness, & commercial stiffness—may the change be as rapid as possible, if at the same time active humanity is introduced into the deplorable system of slavery. . .

This reviewer was interested to note that his house in the French Quarter is attributed to Latrobe's architect son and his associate, Latour.

Illinois Students Courageous

Our biggest and best bouquet this week goes to the students of the University of Illinois for their part in one of the most courageous actions taken by any student body in recent years. The Illini elected a 19-year-old Negro girl as queen of their 42nd homecoming two weeks ago. The girl, Clarice Davis, is the daughter of a Chicago streetcar motorman and is a social science major.

Her selection as the first Negro girl ever to reign as queen of a Big Ten conference school is a demonstration to all the world that, at least on the college campus, Americans are beginning to fight their way out of the jungle of racial prejudices. If we are to maintain our position as a world leader in the fight against communist totalitarism we must show clearly that democracy is a living, working principle, not just a lot of idle chatter expounded by Fourth of July orators.

We like to think of Miss Davis as a symbol. A symbol of what intelligent Americans can do when they cast aside their hates and prejudices and begin to think rationally and sanely about what our constitution means when it says "all men are created equal."

Re-printed from the Nov. 16th issue of *The Hullabaloo*, student newspaper of Tulane University, New Orleans, La. (See picture on Page 1.)

THEODOR S. BEHRE

THEODOR S. BEHRE, New Orleans business man, died suddenly November 17th, of coronary thrombosis. Ted was one of the outstanding liberals of the South and a devoted friend of the SCEF. The warmth and depth of his character and the honesty and courage with which he held to his convictions endeared him to all whose privilege it was to come within the orbit of his friendship.

Integrated School—

(Continued from page 1)

three years to prepare for it. Now some of my teachers have expressed disappointment because they don't have Negro children in their classes."

It is indeed unfortunate that Southern politicos of the Byrnes-Tallmadge sort cannot profit from the Fort Bragg example. The preparations Mrs. Poole made toward the advent of integration are so much more simple and humane than blustering threats to abolish the whole public school system.

A Case!—

(Continued from page 1)

Rev. Caxton Doggett of Rader Memorial Methodist Church, Miami.

"I consider this case worse than the Scottsboro case in many ways," Dr. Harlow declares. The SCEF, agreeing, has filed protests with U. S. Attorney General Howard McGrath and Governor Fuller Warren of Florida. We urge our readership to do likewise.

Funds for the defense of Irwin may be sent to the NAACP, 20 W. 40 St., N.Y.C.

Southern Conference Educational Fund, Inc.
822 Perdido Street
New Orleans 12, Louisiana

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